

SN. 10/743,654

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. FUJI:284

REMARKS

Claims 11-17 are now pending in this application for which applicants seek reconsideration.

Amendment

Claims 1-10 have been canceled and claims 11 and 15-17 have been amended. Claim 11 has been amended to define that the alternately laminated iron or cobalt layer and a platinum layer are formed using alternately a target of Fe or Co and a target of Pt. The offending term "type" also has been deleted from claim 11 to overcome the § 112 rejection. Claims 15 and 16 have been amended to reflect the changes made in parent claim 11. Claim 17 has been amended to improve its form. No new matter has been introduced.

Art Rejection

Claims 1-5 and 8-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Araki (USP 6,824,817). Claims 1-10 were rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Suzuki (USP 6,068,739) in view of Haratani (USP 6,420,058). Claims 15 and 16 were rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Araki in view of Haratani and Ristau (USP 6,541,131). Claim 17 was rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Araki in view of Haratani and Nemoto (USP 6,815,083). Applicants traverse these rejections because none of the applied references would have taught forming a magnetic recording layer using alternately a target of Fe or Co and a target of Pt, as set forth in claim 11.

In rejecting claims 15 and 16, which call for forming a magnetic recording layer using alternating targets, which limitation is now incorporated in claim 11, the examiner relied on the passage set forth in column 4, lines 59-65, of Ristau for the proposition that co-sputtering from separate elemental targets or a single target would have been obvious. Claim 11 (as well as claims 15 and 16), however, calls for using **alternately** a target of Fe or Co and a target of Pt. Although Ristau teaches using plural targets, they are used at the same time instead of alternately. There simply would not have been any teaching or motivation for sputtering the targets alternately. Applicants believe that the other applied references also would not have specifically taught using targets alternately.

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Conclusion

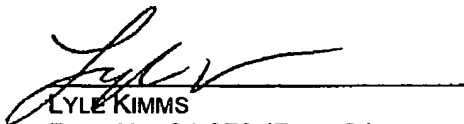
Applicants submit that claims 11-17 patentably distinguish over the applied references and are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicants urge the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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15 NOVEMBER 2005

DATE



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REG. NO. 34,079 (RULE 34, WHERE APPLICABLE)

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